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2019 REVIEW

MAIN NEWS OF THE YEAR

Metro rounds up the most memorable news and pop culture events from the last 12 months.

DMITRY BELYAEV, MIGUEL VELÁZQUEZ / METRO WORLD NEWS / PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES & PROVIDED

1 Street fury

2019 became a year marked by social protests. The streets were on fire, mainly in Latin America. For example, in Venezuela, after the proclamation of Juan Guaidó as president; in Haiti, demanding the resignation of President Jovenel Moïse; in Ecuador after fuel price increases; in Bolivia, after the elections in which Evo Morales was seeking a fourth term; and in Chile because of profound social inequality. There were also intense protests in Hong Kong, France, Lebanon, Iran and Iraq. The rise of the feminist movement was spotted, and the fight against climate change gained more followers.

2 Exploring the corners of space

Space exploration continued throughout the year and humanity was amazed by new discoveries. Chinese probe Chang'e 4 for the first time has shown the dark side of the Moon, the least explored area of the Earth's natural satellite. Also, on April 10, the first photograph of a black hole located in the center of the galaxy M87 was revealed. It was made by the Event Horizon Telescope initiative, a collaboration in which nearly 200 scientists participate.

3 The Islamic State leader is killed

In March, the terrorist group Islamic State lost control of the last existing territory stemming from 2014, a year in which it had self-proclaimed the so-called Caliphate. In 2019 its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, whose death was earlier speculated, appeared again. On October 26, the 48-year-old was killed during a special operation executed by the United States. He detonated a suicide vest while being chased through a tunnel.

4 The end of several "eras"

On April 26, "Avengers: Endgame" was released, breaking several records and becoming the highest-grossing movie in history. It earned $2.7B+ in box office, surpassing "Avatar," "Titanic" and "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." However, it was not the only "end of an era." In 2019, we saw the farewell of HBO's hit series "Game of Thrones," which ended after eight seasons, as well as "The Big Bang Theory," which came to an end after 12 years of broadcasting. "Episode IX – The Rise of Skywalker" is bringing a "Star Wars" saga to an end.

5 Unbeatable fire

Massive fire ravaged Notre Dame, one of France's most famous landmarks, on April 15. It caused enormous damage to the cathedral that was built more than 600 years ago. A fire also wiped out much of Japan's Shuri Castle on October 31. The nearly 500-year-old building has been rebuilt on other occasions, including after World War II. Fires in the Amazon rainforest and other parts of the world, such as Australia, also caught the attention of environmental activists.

6 "El Chapo" trial

Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán, a Mexican drug kingpin who twice escaped prison before his final capture in 2016 and extradition to the U.S., was found guilty of a number of criminal charges (including murder, money laundering, drug trafficking, racketeering, organized crime) related to his leadership of the Sinaloa Cartel. The trial of the year saw the 62-year-old being sentenced to life in prison plus 30 years.

THOSE WHO PASSED AWAY

Karl Lagerfeld

The creative director of the French fashion house Chanel since 1983 passed away at the age of 85 on February 19. Lagerfeld also held the position of creative director of the Italian fur and leather goods fashion house Fendi, and of his own label. The designer from Germany, who became Metro's global guest editor in 2012, was recognized for his signature white hair, black sunglasses, fingerless gloves and high, starched, detachable collars.

Keith Flint

A founding member of electronic dance band The Prodigy died on March 4 aged 49. According to an Instagram post by bandmate Liam Howlett, the English singer took his own life at his home in Essex. After his death, fans used the hashtag 'Firestarter4Number1' on social media in order to try to get the song "Firestarter" to Number 1 in the UK Singles Chart as a mark of respect for Flint and to raise awareness for male suicide.

Grumpy Cat

The American Internet celebrity cat known for her "grumpy" facial appearance, which was caused by an underbite and feline dwarfism passed away on May 14 from complications after contracting an infection, aged 7. The feline was the subject of a popular meme in which cynical images were made from her photographs.

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Best ZOOMs 2019

From a frozen hotel inspired by "Game Of Thrones" to plastic-wrapped faces challenging beauty standards, this year Metro World News has reported on some stunning photographs from around the world. We're looking at the best of 2019. **ANIEL CASILLAS | METRO WORLD NEWS**
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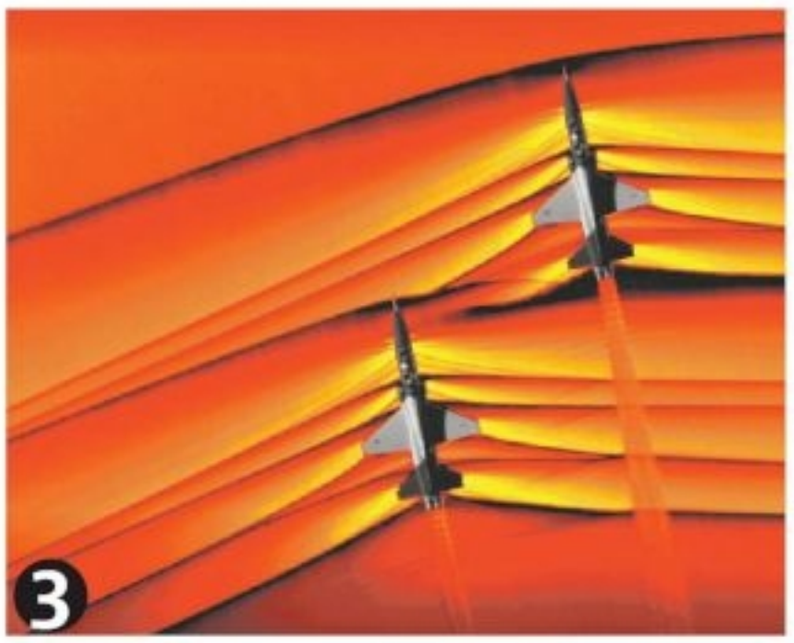

1 Winter is here! And this GoT-themed hotel is ready
This year we saw the release of the final season of the popular TV series "Game Of Thrones." Thus new experiences related to the HBO show were in trend. Spending a night at the Lapland Hotels SnowVillage, located in Kittilä, Finland, became one of the best options for fans. For the second consecutive year, it was decorated with fantasy drama elements and characters, allowing guests to enjoy GoT-themed snow suites.

2 Plastic-wrapped faces to challenge beauty standards
Standards of style and beauty are extremely high in the fashion and advertising market. So much so that sometimes they convert the industry into a meat market. That's why photographer duo Julia SH and Nic Sadler (SH/Sadler) decided to create the 'Fresh Meat' series, with which they seek to subvert current beauty standards and face the dehumanization it has created.

3 Supersonic shockwaves are interacting in flight
For the first time in history, NASA managed to photograph the interaction of shockwaves from two supersonic aircrafts in flight. The image, captured by the U.S. space agency using advanced technology, was made during Air-to-Air Background Oriented Schlieren (AirBOS) flights in Edwards, California.

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PHENOMENA THAT TRANSFORMED THIS DECADE'S FASHION

How do we go from a fashion dictatorship to a ... democracy? This decade brought an accelerated digital revolution, changes in the industry and how we consume fashion.

LUZ LANCHEROS | METRO WORLD NEWS

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NEW FORMS OF BEAUTY

Inclusion was consolidated in this decade. Markets and images opened to new types of beauty and icons that break standards in terms of gender, race, and sizes. And the brands that didn't understand that were left behind, like Victoria's Secret, to the point that they had to cancel their iconic runway show. Others, on the other hand, such as Fenty, according to Grand View Research, will be selling $200 billion dollars by 2025. "From digital and social networks, styling has changed a lot. This has also changed the ideals of beauty and Fenty, for example, has generated an interesting change and an influence that will last the next few years in the fashion world," Mariale Pascua, consultant for the global trend agency WGSN, explained.

NOSTALGIA COMEBACK

Gucci became a collage for nostalgia from the '70s and '80s that catapulted its sales and put it back on the top the industry. But also, over the past decade, we saw a progressive turn towards the '90s in terms of makeup, iconic garments (from slip dresses to flannel shirts and athleisure) to finish off with the lavishness of '80s, as we see with Versace and with Mugler on catwalks and red carpets. We also saw the streetwear boom, with brands like Louis Vuitton with Virgil Abloh and Vetements. "Ugly" fashion also brought pieces such as crocs and sneakers to runway shows, among others.

SHIFT IN THE WAY WE CONSUME FASHION

The decade brought the Rana Plaza tragedy, which left 1127 dead and showed how inhuman fast fashion was with its production (ironically, this decade also was the one in which Amancio Ortega, owner of Zara, became one of the richest men in the world). Documentaries such as "The True Cost" and movements such as The Fashion Revolution began to rise, as well as channels for exchanging and reselling clothes. "A few years ago, one of the macro-trends we presented talked about Anthropocene. The era of man. And there we realized how we would be more aware about the waste we produce. Thus, we could question how to consume and waste less," Mariale Pascua said.

FASHION IS PLEASING DEMANDS OF THE PEOPLE

Brands today owe it to their consumers. And that was what we saw with so many viral campaigns for and against what they proposed. "Brands realized that they cannot sell what they want to consumers, but what consumers ask for. We also saw how people can control brands, how people look for those brands with whom they feel recognized. That is why brands that do not represent people or that feel like just a pose, have fallen, they end up crucified. "Even brands such as Patagonia have become politicized," Pascua added.

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Social Media Trends

Spotify

Most-streamed artists:

1. Post Malone
2. Billie Eilish
3. Ariana Grande
4. Ed Sheeran
5. Bad Bunny

Most-streamed tracks:

1. "Señorita" Camila Cabello & Shawn Mendes
2. "Bad guy" Billie Eilish
3. "Sunflower" Post Malone, Swae Lee
4. "7 Rings" Ariana Grande
5. "Old Town Road – Remix" Lil Nas X, Billy Ray Cyrus

YouTube

Most-liked creator videos:

1. MrBeast — Make This Video The Most Liked Video On Youtube
2. PewDiePie, Marzia & Felix — Wedding
3. Whindersonnunes — O DIA EM QUE ASSISTI BIRD BOX (A day I saw Bird Box)
4. Black Gryph0n — ONE GUY, 54 VOICES
5. Nilson Izaias Papinho Oficial — Minha slime deu certo (My slime worked)

Most-liked music videos:

1. Shawn Mendes, Camilla Cabello — Señorita
2. BTS feat. Halsey — Boy With Luv
3. Blackpink — Kill This Love
4. Billie Eilish — Bad guy
5. Lil Nas X ft. Billy Ray Cyrus — Old Town Road

Instagram

An egg has become the most-liked photograph on this social network:

world_record_egg Let's set a world record together and get the most liked post on Instagram. Beating the current world record held by Kylie Jenner (18 million)! We got this
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Google

Top searches:

1. India vs South Africa
2. Cameron Boyce (American actor who died on July 6 due to complications of epilepsy)
3. Copa America
4. Bangladesh vs India
5. iPhone 11

Top news:

1. Copa America
2. Notre Dame
3. ICC Cricket World Cup
4. Hurricane Dorian
5. Rugby World Cup

Top people:

1. Antonio Brown
2. Neymar
3. James Charles
4. Jussie Smollett
5. Kevin Hart

The best TV shows of the past decade

"Stranger Things" NETFLIX

Metro's staff dishes out their top television picks.

METRO STAFF
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With so many incredible and entertaining choices, it can be hard to narrow down what shows are considered "the best" of the past decade — but Metro did try. Here are the top picks for the best television shows the past ten years has provided.

"Ozark" (2017-)
This riveting drama follows a financial planner who relocates his family after a money laundering scheme with a Mexican drug lord goes wrong. The writing, acting, production and direction of this series is by far some of the best ever seen not even in just the past decade. *Molly Given*

"Downton Abbey" (2010-2015)
"Downton Abbey" took viewers time-traveling to the early 20th century by capturing the essence of an era. From the downstairs staff to the countess, it's hard not to fall in love with one of the characters. *Becca Glasser-Baker*

"Schitt's Creek" (2015-2020)
This sitcom follows one wealthy family after they find themselves completely broke and must relocate to the small town of Schitt's Creek. Each character is absolutely hilarious, the chemistry between the cast is exceptional and the show is also genuinely heartwarming as well. **MG**

"Stranger Things" (2016-)
When a young boy disappears, his mother, friends and a police chief battle bullies and supernatural creatures to rescue him from an other world. *BGB*

"Mindhunter" (2017-)
"Mindhunter" examines the eerie phenomenon of serial killers and how the FBI first began to attempt to understand, study and catch them. Each season has its own nail-biting storyline, and this show is truly unlike any other. *MG*

"Game of Thrones" (2011-2019)
The epic show has everything you could want: dragons, royalty, strong characters and epic battles. What's not to love? *BGB*

"Parks and Recreation" (2009-2015)
This delightful sitcom follows the Parks Department in Pawnee, Indiana and the hilariously colorful staff who work there. The series is truly a delight and every episode is packed full of comedic genius. *MG*

"American Horror Story" (2011-)
Every season of this show is unique, creative and innovative. It follows a different storyline, but it tends to reuse the same actors in entirely different roles. *BGB*

"Fleabag" (2016-2019)
"Fleabag" follows the hilarious and tragic life of one dry-witted woman living in London as she tries to maneuver through grief and life's challenges. This show is set up so uniquely and truly has a life of its own. *MG*

"The Good Place" (2016- 2020)
This show took the world by storm with its charming sense of humor and tried to answer the question of what happens after you die. *BGB*

"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" (2005-)
A narcissistic and selfish group of morally deprived individuals own a bar in South Philadelphia, and the results of 'The Gang's' over-the-top antics are undoubtedly some of the best quality TV out there. *MG*

"Legends of Tomorrow" (2016-)
A team of often forgotten and hysterical superheroes combat everything from mythical creatures to historical figures. *BGB*

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The 10 best films of the decade

2019 has been a pretty amazing year in film. As we close the book on the 2010s, we decided to take a hard look back at some of the best films of the last decade.

"Bridesmaids" (2011)
The best film to break up the comedy boys club
Aside from comic book adaptations and anything with Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, the buddy comedy has been one of the most successful film templates at the box office over the past decade. But no other film has stood the test of time quite as well and as consistently hilariously as "Bridesmaids." The film starring and written by Kristen Wiig, with her writing partner Annie Mumolo, and directed by Paul Feig not only cemented the film career of Melissa McCarthy -- and crowned her the undisputed champ of dropping F-bombs onscreen -- but also earned Oscar nominations for Best Original Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress for McCarthy. *Pat King*

"Holy Motors" (2012)
Best art house film to watch while low key dosing (not micro-dosing)
Look, so I don't do drugs anymore, but if I did, I would certainly do it while watching "Holy Motors." I wouldn't do too much though. "Holy Motors" provides a lot of stimulation cause for anxiety and paranoia. Look, just set aside two hours one evening with one close friend. The sensations and enigmas buried in this mesmerizing film will stay with you through the next decade. Thank me later. *James Case*

"Inside Llewyn Davis" (2013)
The best film to capture the existential battle between art and capitalism
In "Inside Llewyn Davis," the Coen Brothers use the backdrop of 1960s Greenwich Village to create a meditative allegory on what it means to be an artist with convictions in a world that only sees dollar signs. Davis, played by Oscar Isaac in his breakout role, is a has-been folky trying to make it in the city's burgeoning scene without having to compromise his artistic vision or returning favors from friends who let him crash on their couches. It's a film about the existential push and pull between being a creator and a consumer told in a poignant and hilarious way only the Coen Brothers can. *PK*

"John Wick" (2014)
The best film to make you immediately want to hug your dog
Allow me to paint the scene for you. It's the wee hours of the morning and I'm bending to the will of my insomnia with a viewing of "John Wick" on HBO on low volume in the one-bedroom apartment that my wife and I shared at the time with our dog, Annie. As the movie begins, I'm shaken to my core that a group of thugs has killed Mr. Wick's brand new puppy that his deceased wife bought him as a present. By the end of it, I'm standing up and cheering for Keanu Reeves as he gets his righteous bloody revenge. Who says movies don't make you feel things? *PK*

"Mad Max: Fury Road" (2015)
Best mainstream blockbuster to watch while low key dosing (not

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micro-dosing)
In some way, everyone wants maximalism and "Mad Max: Fury Road" delivers. Subtlety and minutia is just so dishonest sometimes. I want to be battered over the head with over-the-top deranged action, with a random guy playing a guitar on the front of a f--king truck. I want a god-damn chase movie. I don't want a movie to end or think about an opportune time to go to the bathroom. I want to piss my pants during the movie. I want to keep f--king going. *JC*

"Arrival" (2016)
Best film to watch completely supine with the film projected onto the ceiling in, say, an observatory
Denis Villeneuve has been my favorite director this decade. I was torn between picking "Prisoners," "Sicario" or even the polarizing "Blade Runner 2049" as his best movie of the decade, as his work (notably supported by the expert cinematography of Roger Deakins) has been the most consistent between art house and mainstream this decade. "Arrival" will be seen in retrospect as his most accessible, and it has aliens, mind-bending perspective shifts and an elaborate time travel plot. *JC*

"The Square" (2017)
Best film with a guy pretending to act like an animal
A lot has been said about the central scene in Ruben Östlund's contemporary epic, but "The Square" is so much more than that. It's an art satire, a send-up of feigned altruism and male privilege, and modern relationships. It's really funny, really messy and absolutely captivating. *JC*

"First Reformed" (2017)
Best ending
The problem with the elevation of television as the go-to medium for prestige narratives is that endings are utterly undefined and pushed off. By the time a series ends, the original writers and creators may be long gone. It's not particularly hard to start great works, and it's particularly unchallenging to open a lot of threads without the audience's focus coming on how it will all end. Film can't do that. Paul Schrader's "First Reformed" is utterly cohesive with each part having a function, and the ending is sublime and reminds us that film has core strengths over television. *JC*

"Mandy" (2018)
The best film to unleash the RAGE CAGE
Despite some of the choices the man has made over the last, oh, twenty years or so, there is no actor that can so effortlessly bring any project he's a part of past the brink of screaming on the subway insanity as Nicolas Cage. While it seemed like we had lost him to direct-to-streaming action film purgatory for good, he turned in one of the most entertaining and unhinged performances of his career with Panos Cosmatos' revenge-horror classic "Mandy." Watching the Rage Cage screaming and chugging a bottle of vodka in his underwear may have been one of the single greatest moments that 2018 had to offer the universe. *PK*

"Cats" (2019)
The best film to ...
Psyche!

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the Grumble

READER WRITE-INS:

PACKAGES NOT BEING DELIVERED IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

I had 3 packages that did not get delivered in time for Christmas this year. I ordered them about a month ago, well in time for them to get to me. Next year, I'm just going to the store.

Anonymous, *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

sudoku

EASY

2		1		4		5		
6		5	2		3		7	
	8		1		5			2
1	2			5				
			7		6			
				1			9	7
4			5		9		2	
	6		4		2	9		8
		2		8		3		4

MEDIUM

5	4			6			7	
			1		9	2		8
8							6	
7	1					9		4
		3				8		
9		8					2	7
	3							2
1		4	2		6			
	7			4			8	1

HARD

1					5	7		
	7	4				1		
8			6		7			
	6		5		1			
	3		4		6		2	
			8		2		5	
			2		9			4
		9				3	1	
		5	1					7

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Overdoing it will be exhausting. Try to keep a positive attitude and a happy demeanor. The more affectionate you are, the easier it will be to get your way.

Taurus Traveling, getting together with friends or relatives, catching up on correspondence or beginning to put your strategy together for the changes you want to make next year should be your focus.

Gemini Don't get dragged into someone else's plans. You are best off being direct about what you want to happen and willing to go it alone in order to reach your goal.

Cancer Reflect, revise and prepare to move on. Take stock of what you've accomplished and what you've left undone. If you listen to someone else's perspective, it will help you put new plans in place.

Leo A personal change may not be welcome, but it will help you break loose from what's holding you back.

Virgo Spending time with people who make you happy will lead to positive decisions and a worthwhile change. A move, pleasure trip or lifestyle adjustment is favored.

Libra Stick to people who share your opinion. If you get into a debate with someone who opposes you, it will ruin your day. Focus on love, romance and entertainment.

Scorpio The ideas offered will encourage you to do things differently at home or change the way you handle your money or health concerns.

Sagittarius You have a right to change your mind. If you don't like the way something is unfolding, back away. Don't make a personal change based on hearsay.

Capricorn Remembering days gone by will help you reflect on your accomplishments. If you get together with friends or relatives, listen to what they have to say; something could prove valuable.

Aquarius If you feel you need a change, be subtle. Taking drastic measures will backfire. Focus more on health, diet and exercise if you want to improve your physical appearance.

Pisces Make adjustments to the way you handle your finances, health and legal matters. Positive change begins with a good plan and the energy to make it happen. EUGENIA LAST

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REUTERS

The Netflix decade: How one company changed the way we watch TV

Paradigm shift in our viewing habits via the Netflix revolution.

In the not-so-distant past, TV viewers were forced to wait a week for the next installment of their favorite shows, parceled out by networks in half-hour or hour-long increments.

Fast forward to 2019, when media and tech companies are subverting that schedule and the majority of viewers using U.S. TV streaming services watch an average of four hours of content in one sitting, according to Deloitte.

To understand how we got here, look at Netflix.

At the start of the decade, binge watching involved VHS tapes, DVD box sets or long nights glued to a DVR. TV cable hits included "Homeland" and "The Wire" - hour-long dramas with complicated plot lines that needed to be watched sequentially.

Watching "Saturday Night Live" on a Sunday became normal, and viewers started to lose track of the broadcast schedule.

In November 2010, Hulu, which debuted in 2008 as an ad-supported streaming video site, launched its subscription service, including full seasons of certain shows.

Around the same time that the broadcast TV schedule was losing its hold on viewers, Netflix was beginning to invest in original content.

In 2011, it struck a deal for its first original show, the political thriller "House of Cards." It released all 13 episodes of the show's first season on Feb. 1, 2013. That July it followed with the entire first season of "Orange is the New Black."

Viewers were hooked, and the cultural shift accelerated. "Binge-watch" was a runner-up to "selfie" for the Oxford Dictionary's 2013 word of the year.

Netflix championed this new kind of consumption, commissioning a survey to determine how many people binge-watch, and why.

"Our viewing data shows that the majority of streamers would actually prefer to have a whole season of a show available to watch at their own pace," said Netflix Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos at the time.

While some say the decade technically ends a year from now, the end of this year will be marked by many as the conclusion of the second decade of the 21st century. And as the new decade begins, the trend may start to reverse, with many companies reconsidering traditional models. REUTERS

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Therapy pig, lovelorn whale are stars of 2019's top animal stories

Superstar animals of 2019.

LiLou the therapy pig stands in the departure area at San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco, California on October 4, 2019. REUTERS

A lovelorn singing whale and ravenous goats credited with thwarting a dangerous California wildfire were among animals whose escapades across the United States made news in 2019.

Animal antics drawing attention this year included:

WORLD'S FIRST AIRPORT THERAPY PIG HOGS CALIFORNIA LIMELIGHT

Anxious airline passengers who may have tried to calm nerves with a cocktail or sleep aides were introduced to a new remedy in November at San Francisco International Airport: a therapy pig. LiLou, a 5-year-old Juliana pig, is now a member of the airport's "Wag Brigade," which otherwise consists mainly of therapy dogs meant to help ease passenger travel anxieties. Dressed in a pilot's cap and with toenails painted bright red, LiLou uses her hooves and snout to bash out tunes on her toy piano before she signs off duty and returns to her owner's downtown San Francisco apartment.

GOATS HELP SAVE CALIFORNIA REAGAN LIBRARY FROM WILDFIRE

A voracious goat herd may burp and bow after being credited with helping save the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library from a California wildfire in October by eating 13 acres of flammable scrub and creating an impenetrable fire break. The 500 hired goats, with names including Vincent Van Goat and Selena Goatmez, like to eat noxious weeds and other invasive species that fuel wildfires, said herd owner Scott Morris. By acing their all-you-can-eat assignment, the goats aided in sparing such library treasures as a piece of the Berlin Wall. The Easy Fire raged less than 50 feet from the site's hangar housing the Air Force One jet used by Regan.

LOVELORN RIGHT WHALE SONG RECORDED OFF ALASKA

The crooning of a rare North Pacific right whale was recorded for the first time ever in June, and scientists said it sounded like the elusive aquatic mammal was looking for love. The likely mating call of the right whale was documented by researchers in the Bering Sea off Alaska's coast. Scientists said they were traveling in such thick fog they could not see the animal, and assumed its serenade was a whale's version of a dating profile. REUTERS

Metro thanks readers for spreading the Magic

ISTOCK

Metro recently wrapped up its 10th annual Tony's Metro Magic toy drive, which collected hundreds of items for local children this 2019 holiday season.

Each year, Metro calls on its readers to choose items from a wish list to be shipped to charities in New York City, Philadelphia and Boston. Perhaps not surprisingly, the most popular toys readers selected include dolls from the ever-popular Disney hit, "Frozen." But among the donations was the gift of warmth, as several readers opted to buy children some much-needed winter coats, as well as towels.

Although the Metro Magic toy drive has come to a close, the local charities we partnered with are always seeking help.

Those interested in helping Metro's New York partner, Coalition For The Homeless, which offers a variety of programs in food and housing assistance, job training, and more, can visit www.coalitionforthehomeless.org. In Boston, we partner with Heading Home Inc, the city's leading provider of emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing for low-income families and individuals. Visit www.headinghomeinc.org to learn more.

And finally, our Philadelphia partner, Institute for the Development of African-American Youth (IDAAY), which empowers at-risk youths to succeed, can be contacted by visiting idaay.org. MORGAN ROUSSEAU

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Here's what Philly Googled the most in 2019

GETTY IMAGES

Google recently shared it's "Year in Search," which reveals what everyone has searched for in 2019.

To determine the 2019 "Year in Search," Google looked at the trillions of search queries over the year. Google said that these aren't the most searched for topics by the number of searches because those don't often change from year to year. They looked at trending queries that had a high spike in traffic over a period of time from 2018 to 2019 and put together a list of the top 10 trends per city.

Google shared with Metro the top trending words for Philly:

Bryce Harper
Nipsey Hussle
Antonio Brown
Jussie Smollett
Cameron Boyce
Game of Thrones
Avengers Endgame
Irs.gov refund
Disney Plus
iPhone 11

If you're curious about how Philly compares to the rest of United States, below are the top searches for the nation:

Disney Plus
Cameron Boyce
Nipsey Hussle
Hurricane Dorian
Antonio Brown
Luke Perry
Avengers: Endgame
Game of Thrones
iPhone 11
Jussie Smollett

The commonalities between the United States and Philly were Nipsey Hussle, Antonio Brown, Jussie Smollett, Cameron Boyce, "Game of Thrones," "Avengers Endgame," Disney Plus and iPhone 11. The two local items that didn't make national searches were Bryce Harper and Irs.gov refund.

In fact, Bryce Harper was the most highly searched item in the Philly area. Harper is a player for the Phillies. According to spotrac.com, the 27-year-old signed a deal for $330 million and 13 years. BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

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Decade in Review: What the smartphone has wrought

A customer looks at an iPhone 4 at the Apple Store 5th Avenue in New York. REUTERS

The myriad ways smartphones have changed our day to day.

When the first Apple iPhone hit the market in 2007, not everyone was convinced it would supplant the flip-phone. When Google's Android software system arrived a year later, the Blackberry still seemed to have bright future.

But with the iPhone 4 in 2010, featuring a high-resolution display, sleek design and front-facing camera, our collective fate was sealed. Here are ways the smartphone has made its mark over the decade.

Access everywhere

Today some 5 billion smartphones are in use around the world, according to Canalysis Research. The total number of internet subscriptions has soared to 7.2 billion globally from 1.3 billion in 2010, the vast majority of them mobile subscriptions, International Telecommunications Union data shows. The explosion in connectivity has been especially dramatic in the developing world, where there are now more mobile connections than people.

There's an app for that

Whether we're hailing a cab, ordering food, playing a game, finding a date, listening to music or shopping for just about anything, there's a good chance we'll be doing it with a smartphone app that didn't exist in 2010. Many of most popular apps are free, but consumers are still expected to spend more than $120 billion in app stores during 2019, according to App Annie, a mobile apps analytics firm.

Feed me

The endless scroll on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other social media apps now consumes 34 minutes of every U.S. adult's day, according to Nielsen. Fewer people are sitting on the sofa to watch live TV at set times, and advertisers are following. Mobile ad spending surpassed TV for the first time in 2018 in terms of percentage share of the U.S. market, according to research firm eMarketer. We can also thank the smartphone for Instagram influencers, "sextortion," and fake news.

Smile for the (smartphone) camera

Global shipments of digital cameras dropped from their 2010 peak of 121 million to just 19 million units in 2018, according to the Camera & Imaging Products Association (CIPA). Meantime the latest phones pack as many four camera lenses and cutting edge software that makes it easier than ever to get that perfect shot. The front-facing camera might be the busiest: Google reports that its Android devices take 93 million selfies every day.

Where am I?

The satellite tracking technology known as GPS, combined with information from cell towers and Wi-Fi networks, has made the smartphones incredibly powerful tracking devices. Google maps and its poorer cousins enable even the most directionally impaired find their way around unfamiliar locales with ease.

For the privacy-minded, though, it's a disaster: Phone companies and app makers routinely record the movements of subscribers and sell that data to advertisers, a $20 billion-a-year business. The data is "anonymized," but as numerous studies and a recent New York Times investigation have revealed it is often a simple matter to identify who is behind the dot on the map. Nearly 50 percent of companies surveyed by Verizon this year used or planned to soon use smartphone management tools to track their employees.

Distracting ourselves to death

In 2018 alone in the United States, 2,628 fatal crashes involved a distracted driver, and of those deadly crashes, about 13% involved mobile phone use, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Say what?

Among the major casualties of the smartphone era is the conventional phone call itself: ubiquitous messaging apps have helped make video calls, GIFs, emojis and audio messaging preferred modes of communication. In the UK, for example, the total number of minutes spent on voice calls fell from 254 billion in 2013 to 206 billion in 2018, and the number of text messages dropped from 129 billion to 74 billion over the same period, according to Ofcom. Mobile data usage, meanwhile, jumped almost nine-fold between 2013 and 2018. The number of available emojis has nearly tripled to almost 3,000 since 2010. REUTERS

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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Rarely do things go as planned when betting on NFL Week 17.

Certain players rest, some teams are wholly disinterested, some players are trying to save their head coach's tenure, others are trying to end their head coach's tenure, and then there are the teams that desperately need a win to get into the playoffs.

The Eagles, of course, need the win over the Giants in the worst way. New York, meanwhile, has been out of playoff contention since Halloween.

So, this should be an easy game to bet on, right, given the "who needs it more" factor?

Na … it's never that easy.

The Giants have actually showed some measure of pride the past two weeks as they are on a two-game win streak (36-20 victory over Miami in Week 15, 41-35 OT win at Washington this past Sunday).

ALL GETTY IMAGES

Sportsbooks are certainly not ruling out the Giants actually showing up for their season finale at MetLife on Sunday as well, as the Eagles are just -4.5 favorites. Here is the latest betting info:

Spread: Eagles -4.5 (-110), Giants +4.5 (-110)

Moneyline: Eagles -225, Giants -180

Over – under: 45 total points (-110)

For whatever reason, Saquon Barkley has saved his best performances of the season for December, as he rushed for 112 yards and two touchdowns against the Dolphins two weeks ago, and a whopping 189 yards against the Redskins in Week 16.

The Eagles defense, though, should be able to contain Barkley in this one as the unit is coming in hot. The Birds D held Ezekiel Elliott to just 47 yards on 13 carries on Sunday, and earlier this month they limited Barkley to 66 yards on 17 carries in that 23-17 overtime win on a Monday night.

The Giants are just 2-5 against the spread at home this season, so we'll take the Eagles to cover.

The play: Eagles -4.5

TWEET OF THE DAY

CJ Vogel
@cjvogel3

Jerry Jones really allowed Jason Garrett to waste the primes of Tony Romo, Dez Bryant, Sean Lee, Tyron Smith, Zack Martin, Travis Frederick, Jason Witten, DeMarcus Ware, DeMarco Murray, Dak Prescott, Ezekiel Elliott, Amari Cooper

Best bets

Bowl betting: Ohio State vs. Clemson

State Farm Stadium in Glendale, AZ is the site for Saturday night's clash between Ohio State and Clemson. Oddsmakers are expecting a close game between these two undefeated programs, which makes sense as the teams profile very similarly. However, the Buckeyes should prove to be the better bet as the more battle-tested squad.

Ohio State survived the fifth-toughest schedule in the country and went 9-4 against the spread in the process. That included multi-score victories against Penn State, Michigan and Wisconsin over the final three weeks of the season. Junior running back J.K. Dobbins went for 540 yards and seven TDs in that span while sophomore signal caller Justin Fields built on an impeccable campaign in which he completed 67.5 percent of his throws for 9.6 yards per attempt with a 40-1 TD-INT ratio. Clemson boasts the nation's top scoring defense, but the Buckeyes' offense seems up to the challenge. Ohio State's stoppers were also the stingiest in the nation in yards allowed per play against much tougher competition than Clemson faced this year (77th-highest strength of schedule).

The play: Ohio State +2.5

ROBERT CRISCOLA

VSiN DAILY LINE

NFL WEEK 17

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES -4.5 AT NEW YORK GIANTS

WASHINGTON REDSKINS AT DALLAS COWBOYS -10.5

TENNESSEE TITANS -6 AT HOUSTON TEXANS

PITTSBURGH STEELERS AT BALTIMORE RAVENS -1

OAKLAND RAIDERS AT DENVER BRONCOS -4

NEW YORK JETS AT BUFFALO BILLS -1.5

SAN FRAN 49ERS -3.5 AT SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

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SPORTS

Presenting the All-2010s teams in Philadelphia sports

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

An added bit of nostalgia comes with the closing of the decade in a few days.

When it comes to the Philadelphia sports scene, there has been a fair share of agony and ecstacy.

The Eagles provided the city with the lone championship of the decade — an upset victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LII back in 2018.

The 76ers emerged from "The Process" that plagued the franchise through most of the decade and are now looking like one of the strongest teams in the Eastern Conference.

The Flyers are attempting to recapture the magic that made them a playoff lock during the 2000s while the Phillies have shown a willingness to spend whatever it takes to try and make their team better.

It's remarkable to think that everyone from that memorable 2008 World Series-winning team gripped the city and the baseball world almost 12 years ago already.

Over these past 10 seasons The City of Brotherly Love provided sports fans with memorable names and performers. Generational talents have emerged while old, wily veterans have said goodbye.

On this page, we put together an All-Decade team for each of the four major Philly-area sports franchises.

From all of us at Metro Philadelphia, we wish you the warmest of holiday greetings and hope that you are able to spend this time with those you love the most.

PHILLIES ALL-DECADE TEAM

C: CARLOS RUIZ
1B: RYAN HOWARD
2B: CHASE UTLEY
3B: MAIKEL FRANCO
SS: JIMMY ROLLINS
OF: BRYCE HARPER
OF: SHANE VICTORINO
OF: JAYSON WERTH

STARTING PITCHERS
ROY HALLADAY
CLIFF LEE
COLE HAMELS
AARON NOLA
ROY OSWALT

CLOSER
JONATHAN PAPELBON

EAGLES ALL-DECADE TEAM

QB: NICK FOLES
RB: LESEAN MCCOY
WR: DESEAN JACKSON
WR: JEREMY MACLIN
WR: J. MATTHEWS
TE: ZACH ERTZ
LT: JASON PETERS
LG: EVAN MATHIS
C: JASON KELCE
RG: B. BROOKS
RT: LANE JOHNSON

DE: B. GRAHAM
DE: TRENT COLE
DT: FLETCHER COX
DT: BENNIE LOGAN
LB: M. KENDRICKS
LB: NIGEL BRADHAM
LB: DEMECO RYANS
CB: ASANTE SAMUEL
CB: B. BOYKIN
CB: JALEN MILLS
S: M. JENKINS
S: RODNEY MCLEOD

P: DONNIE JONES
K: ALEX HENERY

FLYERS ALL-DECADE TEAM

FIRST LINE
LW - CLAUDE GIROUX
C - SEAN COUTURIER
RW - JAKUB VORACEK

SECOND LINE
LW - J. VAN RIEMSDYK
C - BRAYDEN SCHENN
RW - WAYNE SIMMONDS

THIRD LINE
LW - MICHAEL RAFFL
C - DANIEL BRIERE
RW - S. HARTNELL

FOURTH LINE
LW - MATT READ
C - TRAVIS KONECNY
RW - JAROMIR JAGR

DEFENSEMEN
CHRIS PRONGER
KIMO TIMONEN
IVAN PROVAROV
BRAYDON COBURN
MARK STREIT

GOALIE: STEVE MASON

76ERS ALL-DECADE TEAM

POINT GUARD
BEN SIMMONS
SHOOTING GUARD
JRUE HOLIDAY
SMALL FORWARD
ANDRE IGUODALA
POWER FORWARD
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Sidney Jones was one of several unlikely Eagles to step up during their victory over the Cowboys on Sunday evening. GETTY IMAGES

UNLIKELY HEROES KEEP EAGLES SEASON ALIVE

THE SPORTS PROFESSOR

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In the end, it was Sidney Jones — maligned as a wasted second-round draft pick — making the defensive play to rescue the Eagles season. With just over a minute left in a one-possession game, Jones went stride for stride with Dallas receiver Michael Gallop, stuck up his right hand and batted away Dak Prescott's 44th and final pass of Sunday afternoon.

Because of that, the Eagles were able to go into victory formation a few minutes later in their 17-9 win over the Cowboys in front of 70,000 delirious fans in South Philly.

Jones lost his starting job earlier this year. He found himself rooted to the bench, deactivated for two games and even the butt of a brilliant parody song on WIP.

Now he's a local hero.

Consider that to be the theme of this euphoric victory, which ensures the Eagles a shot to win the NFC East next weekend. In a crazy season of disharmony, underachievement, and injury, the Eagles are being saved by the fringiest players on their roster.

No-names promoted from the practice squad have emerged as critical performers. Backups stepped in and made critical plays. Hitherto washouts got a second — or third — chance and grew into the moment.

They played hard, listened to their coach, respected their quarterback (more about that in a minute) — and here we are, two weekends away from the Eagles potentially hosting a playoff game, most likely a rematch against the tough Seattle Seahawks. While that portends as no picnic, it sure beats packing up the season.

So let's toast Boston Scott and Greg Ward, recent-vintage scout teamers who combined for 14 touches in Sunday's do-or-die game. Ward had four catches for 71 yards, again raising the question of why he spent more than two years on the practice squad.

And raise a glass to Josh Sweat, Isaac Seumalo and Dallas Goedert, guys who glance up at the Lincoln Financial Field stands and find no fans wearing their jerseys.

The win over the Cowboys was one of those rare games where character counts as much as talent. The Eagles have been battered by injuries this year, testing to the limit that 2017 motto of, "We all we got, we all we need."

But maybe some of the injuries are a blessing in disguise. With WRs Alshon Jeffery and Nelson Agholor out, somehow the insidious off-the-record criticism of Carson Wentz has stopped.

"You got all these (bleep) reports about Carson not doing this, that or the other," Pro Bowl guard Brandon Brooks said last week. "If you're not going to stand behind what you say, then just be quiet. And we haven't had any issues since."

Wentz was brilliant Sunday, going 31-for-40 for 319 yards in the biggest game of his career. He made smart decisions at the line of scrimmage, moved out of the pocket and ran smartly when he had to.

Other than Zach Ertz, who missed much of the game after a shot to the ribs, Wentz's cast of weapons were all first- or second-year players. The brilliant rookie Miles Sanders had 149 total yards. Goedert, a 2018 draft pick, had nine catches for 91 yards.

The rest of the cast? To steal the cliché, you couldn't tell the players without a program.

It's working. Wentz is building a rapport and chemistry with his new targets that were missing with those veteran backbiters. It's an unlikely cast, but it produced the most satisfying win of the season Sunday.

Now they just need to do it once more on Sunday against the Giants.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on 12/29/19 at 1:00PM online at www.StorageAuctions.com at the Safeguard Storage facility located at: Safeguard Self Storage, 3300 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134 • 215-203-0760. The personal goods stored therein by the following:

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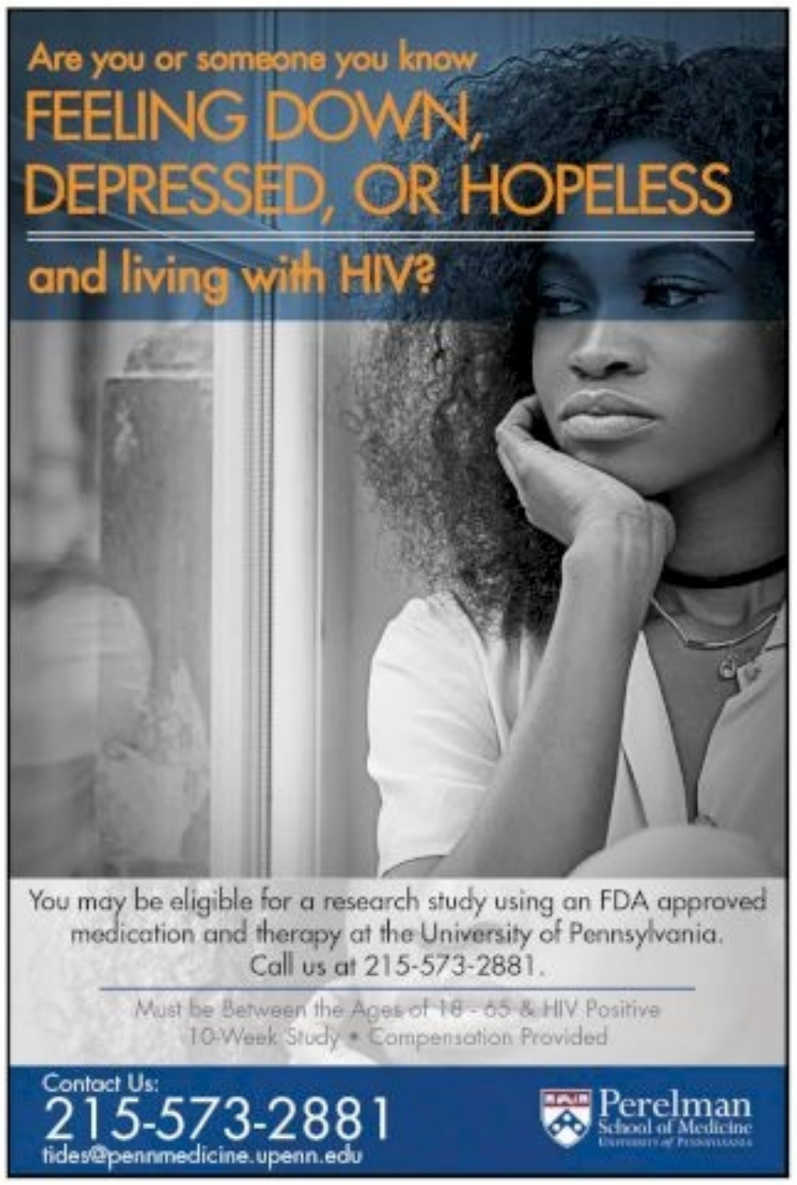
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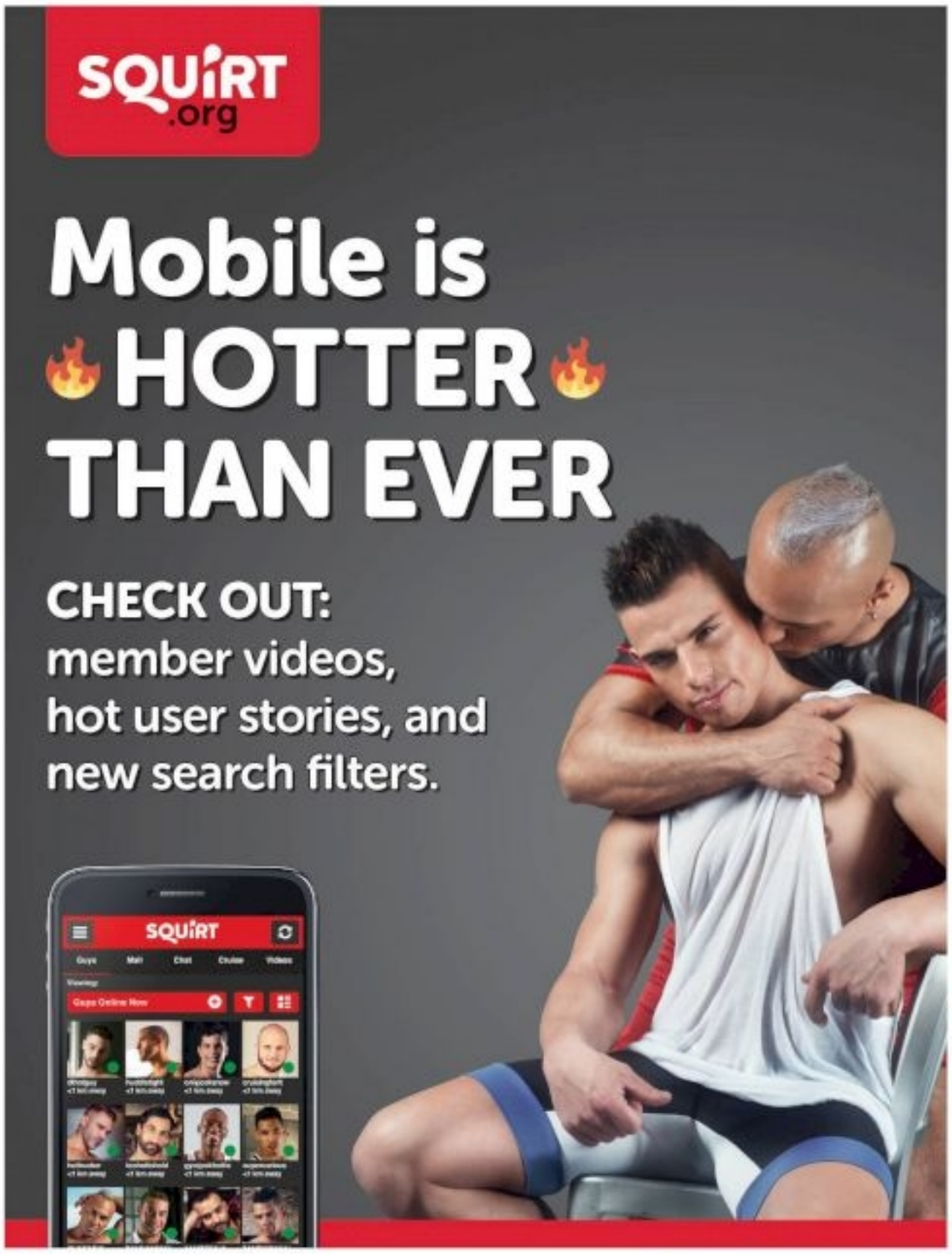

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
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IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
JUVENILE DEPARTMENT
NO. 17 JT 174

IN RE: Evans, K. D., A MINOR CHILD.

TO: FLORIDA EVANS, RESPONDENT PUTATIVE FATHER, OF THE ABOVE-NAMED MALE CHILD BORN TO KAMISHA LAVENNA ROSEBORO ON OR ABOUT THE 25TH DAY OF JULY, 2004, IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

TO: JOHN DOE, RESPONDENT UNKNOWN/UNNAMED FATHER OF THE ABOVE-NAMED MALE CHILD BORN TO KAMISHA LAVENNA ROSEBORO ON OR ABOUT THE 25TH DAY OF JULY, 2004, IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

TAKE NOTICE that the Catawba County Department of Social Services has filed a **Petition to Terminate Parental Rights** with respect to the above-described minor child has been filed in the above-entitled proceeding.

You are required and directed to make defense of such pleadings by filing an Answer to the Petition in this proceeding within forty (40) days after the first publication of this notice, exclusive of such date. The Answer must be filed with the Clerk of Superior Court no later than January 21st, 2020.

If you are indigent, you have a right to appointed counsel. If you are not already represented by appointed counsel, you may contact the clerk of court immediately to request counsel. You are further noticed that any counsel appointed previously and still representing you in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding will continue to represent you unless otherwise ordered by the court. You have a right to attend all hearings concerning your child.

The date, time and place of any pretrial hearing pursuant to G.S. 7B-1108.1 and the hearing on the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights will be mailed by the moving party upon filing of the response to this notice or forty (40) days from the date of this notice if no response is filed.

Upon your failure to file an Answer to the Petition within the time prescribed, the Movant, the Catawba County Department of Social Services, will apply to the Court for the relief sought in the Petition, **SPECIFICALLY as to the TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS** with respect to the above-described minor child.

Lauren Vaughan, Senior Attorney
Catawba County Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 669, Newton, North Carolina 28658
(828)695-4559

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U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to First Union National Bank, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 1998-6
PLAINTIFF
VS.
Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns and All Persons, Firms or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest from or under James R. Holmes, deceased and Ramona Holmes, known Heir of James R. Holmes, deceased
DEFENDANTS COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CIVIL DIVISION
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

NO: 190903402

To the Defendants, Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns and All Persons, Firms or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest from or under James R. Holmes, deceased and Ramona Holmes, known Heir of James R. Holmes, deceased: TAKE NOTICE THAT THE Plaintiff, U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to First Union National Bank, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 1998-6 has filed an action Mortgage Foreclosure, as captioned above.

NOTICE

IF YOU WISH TO DEFEND, YOU MUST ENTER A WRITTEN APPEARANCE PERSONALLY OR BY ATTORNEY AND FILE YOUR DEFENSE OR OBJECTIONS WITH THE COUT. YOU ARE WARNED THAT IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO THE CASE MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOU AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY LOSE MONEY OR PROPERTY OR OTHER RIGHTS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

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Robert Kane unit #119;
Ricardo Medina unit #129;
Patricia Thompson unit #602;
Mary Otoole unit #804;
Darron C. Robinson unit #1214;
Paulette Brown unit #1622;
Natalie Shapiro unit #1630.

1/14/2020 at 12:00 pm Auction:
Kyleea Thomas unit #931

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Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice US Storage Centers - **Philadelphia 1910 S. Christopher Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia PA 19148** intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.usstoragecenters.com/auctions on **1/14/2020** at **10:00am**.

Anthony Testino unit #1037;
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Jose Samson units #2045 & #2053;
Justin Mahoney unit #2516

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Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, December Term, 2019, No. 000769.

Notice is hereby given that on December 5, 2019, the petition of Efigenia Duran Candelario was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to Efigenia Santiago.

The Court has fixed court date January 17, 2020 at 10:30AM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing.

All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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GAMES

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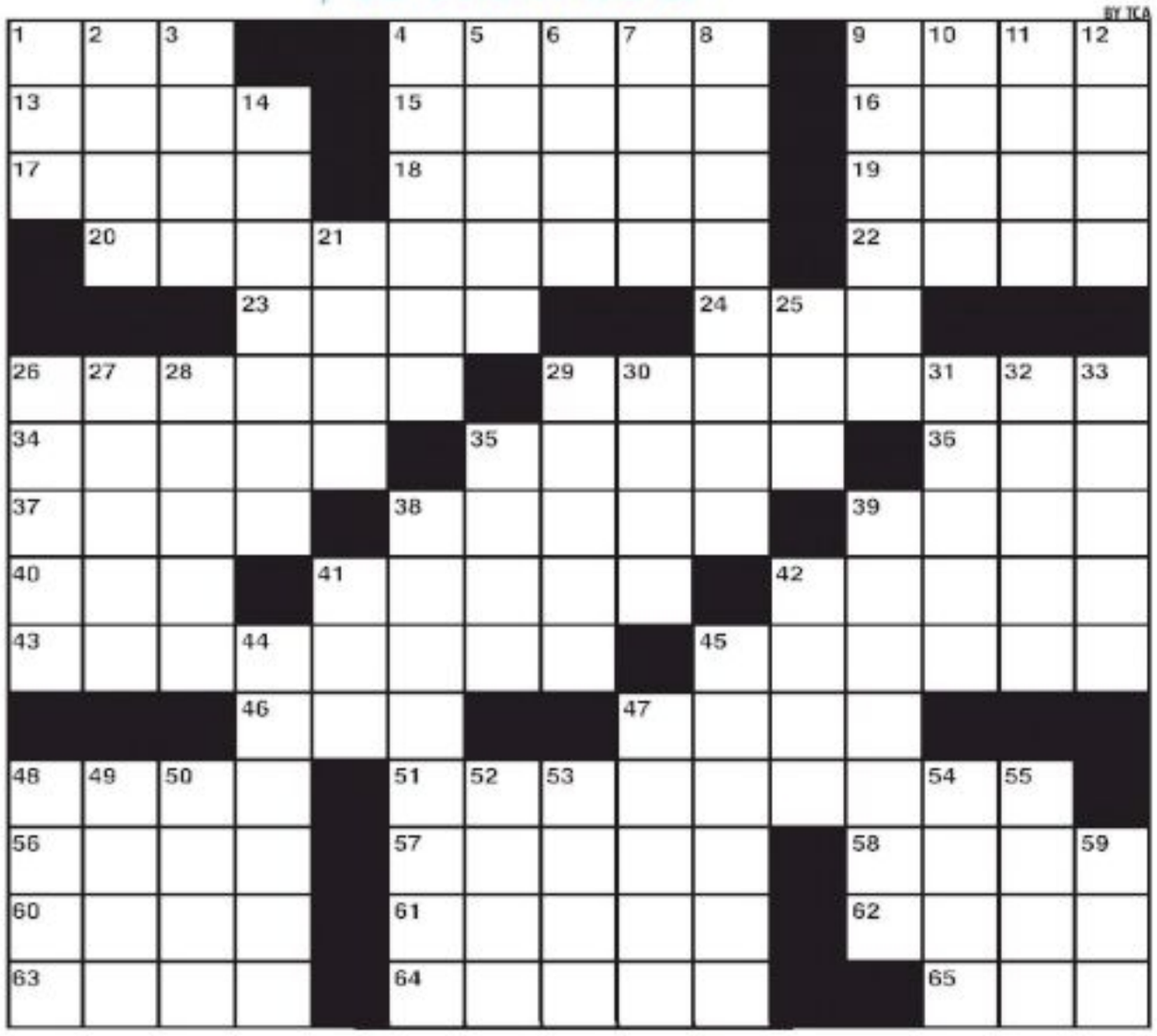
BY TCA



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4 Looks for
9 __ Benedict; fancy breakfast
13 Wild hog
15 Huge lifting device
16 Outer garment
17 Speechless
18 Place to stay
19 Theater box
20 Chattanooga's state
22 Eden resident
23 Heavy book
24 George Eads series, once
26 Word of warning
29 Driver
34 Kingdom
35 "...Quoth the __, 'Nevermore'..."
36 Siesta hour
37 Fine __; poetry, painting, drama, etc.
38 Boston __ beans
39 __-back; relaxed
40 Pass away
41 Thin cookie
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46 Bizarre
47 Peddle
48 Choose
51 Sign meaning "and"
56 Seep out
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58 Boyfriend
60 Convince
61 Unsuspecting
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63 Dumbo's "wings"
64 Mt. Aconcagua's range
65 Actress Leoni

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7 ACL tear site
8 Opted for
9 Oblong pastry
10 __ to go; all prepared
11 Very excited
12 Wineglass part
14 Houses for tenants
21 Man's nickname
25 Family tree member
26 Paper fasteners
27 Mysterious
28 Thirst quencher
29 Creates
30 __ the top; excessive
31 Know-__; smarty-pants
32 Pilfer
33 NBC's morning show
35 Pool toy
38 Colorful scarf
39 Brahms' masterpiece
41 Give up the single life
42 Coolidge & Ripken
44 Jails
45 Poem divisions
47 Do a waiter's job
48 Prepare to be photographed
49 Midwest state
50 Feodor III or Ivan V
52 Cruel
53 __ for; bought
54 Orderly
55 Knighted woman
59 Member of WWII's Allied Powers

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